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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/811,648	03/05/97	KIKINIS	P1523CIP

DONALD R BOYS  
P O BOX 187  
AROMAS CA 95004

LM01/0115

EXAMINER

VAUGHN JR, W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2756

DATE MAILED: 01/15/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
08/811,648

Applicant(s)  
Dan Kikinis

Examiner  
William. C. Vaughn, Jr.

Group Art Unit  
2756



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_

☐ This action is FINAL.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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### DETAILED ACTION

1. The application has been examined. **Original claims 1-4** are pending. The objections and rejections cited are as stated below:

#### *Drawings*

2. The drawings are objected to because of the objections noted on the PTO-948 form attached. Correction is required.
3. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only.
4. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action.

#### *Title*

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The following title is suggested:  
APPARATUS AND METHODS THAT ALLOW SHARING OF FUNCTIONS AND DEVICES  
AMONG INDIVIDUAL COMPUTERS CONNECTED TO A HOME NETWORK.

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. **Claims 1-4** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Corley et al. (Corley), U.S. Patent No. 5,838,683.

8. Regarding **claim 1**, Corley discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Corley discloses *a multimedia data distribution system, comprising a distribution system adapted to distribute and deliver public protocol signals to the level of an individual home network bus* (Corley teaches an interactive multimedia system that employs a central and peripheral hubs that function to provide services to a plurality of clients of a call manager server), [Abstract], *and a micro-PBX connected to the distribution system and to the home network bus* (Corley teaches that existing private branch exchange (PBX) and LAN topologies are based upon client-server architecture and isochronous networks. He later states that the ISOBridge hub (180) is typically used in work-at-home applications wherein an end station is communicating via a fax/modem or ISDN BRI interface through an Isochronous WAN into a packet-based Ethernet and it is also well known in the art that within a PBX system at normally connects between twenty or mor station sets to one another, within a public network), [Fig. 1, item 180, Col. 2, lines 39-42, Col. 8,

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lines 1-65, Col. 9, lines 12-42 and Col. 21, lines 7-16] and *wherein the micro-PBX is adapted to translate between the public network protocol and a Local Area Network (LAN) protocol on the home network bus, and to manage the home network bus as a carrier of multiple access points type bus* (Corley teaches that the signaling for circuit and cell switching is best defined by the ISDN signaling standards which include the Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection. He also teaches a message translator section (250) that provides the interface between the protocols foreign to the multimedia manager and the multimedia manager internal protocol), [Col. 23, lines 14-39]. However, he does not explicitly state a converter connected to an outlet. Accordingly, one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made could have utilized the ISOBridge Hub as a means for converting the home network bus to be adapted for the different signals coming in and out. Since Corley suggests that the ISOBridge performs the conversion of data and IDLC data to and form Ethernet packets (Col. 21, lines 12-16) *and the converter is adapted to convert signals on the home network bus to a form required by one of the single media and multimedia electronic devices* (Corley also teaches whereas an ATM interface provides the ATM adaption process to convert between an ATM cell and a non-ATM cell. In addition to the conversion of ATM cell, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have realize that since the ISOBridge Hub is used in an work-at-home application environment it would have been necessary for the Hub to have been able to convert the signals from the home network bus [Col. 21, lines 12-16 and Col. 24-33]. By this rationale **claim 1** is rejected.

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9. Regarding **claim 2**, Corley discloses *the single and multimedia electronic devices include telephones (127), personal computers (125), fax machines* (It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have utilized the telephone hub for the purpose of a fax machine), *and televisions running through set top boxes* (The suggestion in Corley of a multimedia PC (125) including a video camera (126) would allow for the use of a television as a means for projected the video camera data). By this rationale **claim 2** is rejected.

10. **Claim 3** is substantially the same as **claim 1** and is thus rejected for reasons similar to those in rejecting **claim 1**.

11. **Claim 4** is substantially the same as **claim 2** and is thus rejected for reasons similar to those in rejecting **claim 2**.

### *Citation of Pertinent Prior Art*

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 5,808,767	Fiber Optic Network with Wavelength-Division-Multiplexed Transmission to Customer Premises
U.S. Patent No. 5,751,338	Methods and Systems for Multimedia Communications Via Public Telephone Networks
U.S. Patent No. 5,751,791	Network Based Multimedia Messaging Method and System
U.S. Patent No. 5,594,732	Bridging and Signaling Subsystems and Methods for Private and Hybrid Communications Systems Including Multimedia Systems
U.S. Patent No. 5,659,542	System and Method for Signaling and Call Processing for Private and Call Processing for Private and Hybrid Communications Systems Including Multimedia Systems
U.S. Patent No. 5,838,314	Digital Video Services Systems with Optional Interactive Advertisement Capabilities

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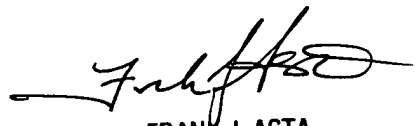
*Conclusion*

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C. Vaughn, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 306-9129. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Asta, can be reached on (703) 305-3817. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-6606. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

WCV

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January 13, 1999



FRANK J. ASTA  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700